GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1333
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2007
UNEMPLOYMENT IN AGRICULTURE
Mahto Shri Tek Lal

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the import of agricultural produces have risen upto three times during the last five years resulting in high unemployment rate;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the farmers who have quit agriculture during the last three years, State- wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) & (b): As per the data of Directorate General of Foreign Trade, the import of agricultural produces has increased from Rs. 16,063.38 crore in 2002-03 to 28,062.94 crore in 2006-07. However, this increase did not result in high unemployment rate. As per the two most recent quinquennial rounds of National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) on Employment and Unemployment, the employment on Usual Status basis in agriculture sector was 239.73 million persons in 1999-2000 (55th round) which has gone up to 258.59 million persons in 2004-05 (61st round).

(c): Information on farmers quitting agriculture are not maintained. However, the number of operational holdings, as per the latest available Agricultural Census Report, had increased by 4.54 per cent in the country between 1995-96 and 2000-01 indicating an increase in agricultural activities. In a few States, the number of holdings decreased during this period. Statewise number of operational holdings is given below.

Statewise Total Number of Operational Holdings.

(In` 000)

States/UTs	2000-01	1995-96	% Variation$
1. Andhra Pradesh	11532	10603	8.76
2. Arunachal Pradesh	107	104	2.94
3. Assam	2603	2683	-2.97
4. Bihar#	11574	14155	NA
5. Chhattisgarh	3255	NA	NA
6. Goa	64	70	-9.00
7 Gujarat	4134	3781	9.34
8. Haryana	1528	1728	-11.59
9. Himachal Pradesh	914	863	5.91
10. Jammu & Kashmir	1443	1336	8.02
11. Jharkhand##	NA	NA	NA
12. Karnataka	7079	6221	13.80
13. Kerala	6657	6298	5.69
14. Madhya Pradesh	7360	NA	NA
M.P. + Chhattisgarh	10615	9603	10.54
15. Maharashtra	13258	10653	24.46
16. Manipur	149	143	4.60
17. Meghalaya	214	160	33.53
18. Mizoram	76	66	14.57
19. Nagaland	144	149	-3.61
20. Orissa	4067	3966	2.54
21. Punjab	997	1093	-8.76
22. Rajasthan	5819	5364	8.50
23. Sikkim	51	44	15.80
24. Tamil Nadu	7859	8012	-1.91
25. Tripura	479	301	59.26
26. Uttaranchal	891	NA	NA

27. Uttar Pradesh 21668 NA NA

UP+Uttaranchal 22559 21529 4.78
28. West Bengal 6790 6547 3.71
29. Andaman & Nicobar 11 10 12.70
Islands
30. Chandigarh 1 2 -32.37
31. Dadra & Nagar 14 14 0.00
Haveli
32. Daman & Diu 6 3 81.79
33. Dehli 28 35 -20.93
34. Lakshadeep 10 9 9.24
35. Pondicherry 38 34 11.59

Total 12,08,22 11,55,80 4.54

$ Based on actual figures.

for 1995-96, Number figures include Jharkhand also.

Data for the year 2000-01 not collected. NA = Not Available.